FANEUIL HALL (NPS)

Dock Square, Boston

Given to the city by Peter Faneuil in 1740, Faneuil Hall, with its market and meeting hall, served as a focal point of Colonial protest against British rule. The hall was enlarged from designs by Charles Bulfinch in 1805–1806 and later echoed the voices of leaders calling for the abolition of slavery. There are shops on its lower floor, and a public auditorium above still accommodates speakers of all causes. The "Cradle of Liberty," as the hall is familiarly known, is also the centerpiece of Faneuil Hall Market, Boston's impressive and successful renewal of its downtown commercial heart.